



SPS/17/060

3 August 2017

## Open Letter from School Leaders

Dear Parents/Guardian

1. Warm greetings from Sembawang Primary School (SBPS)! The month of July was an exciting and fulfilling month. We saw the successful completion of a few school / level-wide programmes, such as P5 NE Show, Family Day Carnival cum Open House, the commemoration of Racial Harmony Day and the P6 Preliminary Oral Examinations. Despite the longer hours, we are thankful to the team of teachers in SBPS for persevering and continuing to give of their best.

2. We would also like to express our appreciation and gratitude to Mr Tham Chong Ho, who had officially retire after 54½ years of service to education. Mr Tham has made significant contributions to the education service. We wish him a happy retirement!

### ***Important Information...***

#### PSLE Oral Examination

3. The PSLE English and Mother Tongue Oral Examination for P6 students will be held on 17 and 18 August. P6 students will be given separate instructions on their reporting time. **All P1 to P5 students need not report to school on these two days.** We wish all our P6s all the best!

### ***Celebration of successes ...***

#### Talent Development Programme (TDP) @ SBPS

4. The school started the TDP this year, with the intent to develop students with talents in the Aesthetics and Sports. A range of activities have been planned and organised for the selected students, such as conversation with the Star, enrichment workshops and community engagement session. To date, our budding talents had conversation with Mr C Kunalan (former national track and field athlete), Mr David Zechariah Kwek (SBPS alumni, full time musician) and Mr Jarrold Ng (a home grown songwriter). These speakers have inspired our students with their stories and encouraged them to strive for excellence. Students can also look forward to sessions with Mr Fandi Ahmad (our local football legend) and Ms Hazelle Teo (DJ, 933FM) on 22 August.

5. TDP students have many opportunities to gain experience and exposure through showcases and competitions. During our recent Family Day Carnival cum Open House, TDP students from the Chinese Orchestra played "The Fight Song" using traditional Chinese musical instruments to remind themselves to fight for their dreams and be resilient. Apart from our school events, our students from the Chinese Orchestra, Chinese Dance, Indian Dance and Malay Dance also took part in the SYF Arts Celebration, putting up a performance for the public at OneKM Mall on 1 July and Causeway Point on 2 July. We want to thank the 2 teachers-in-charge of TDP, Ms Ho Huan Xin and Mr Adrian Chong, for planning and organising the programmes as well as for believing in the students. Thank you, teachers!

#### Singapore Youth Festival (SYF)

6. The SYF Art Exhibition, in its 49<sup>th</sup> year in 2017, celebrates the artist in every child. It showcases children's creative ideas, personal aspirations and hard work put into artistic expressions. As part of the art curriculum, the exhibition facilitates dialogue on ideas, inspirations and art processes among student artists and audiences in schools and the community. Through art discussions and discourse, students develop as effective communicators and self-directed learners.

7. The 2017 Exhibition features 513 artworks by over 3000 students from primary schools, special education schools and Singapore International School (Hong Kong). It is a tribute to the deep learning and rich experience our students gain through the art curriculum in schools. The theme for this year, “Artist and Space” invites our student artists to imagine, inquire and discover many ways to interpret and express the concept of ‘space’.

8. We are pleased to inform that our Art CCA students have taken part in the above event and their art work can be viewed at the Online Art Gallery, <https://www.singaporeyouthfestival.sg/art-exhibition/about-2017-art-exhibition>. The work submitted are

Title	Names of Artists	Artist Statement	Art work
The Artist in us	Batrisyia Nawwarah Binte Lazwardy, Ng Cai Xin, Debbie, De Guzman Shiloh Claire Yambot, Miza Farzanah Binti Mohamed Fazil, Avelynn Li Shiyong, Disha Kiran , Eesha	An artist's desire to stand up for his beliefs cannot be curbed by physical space. An artist will continue to thrive and speak up, as he has, throughout the ages. Our art piece shows that even when a man is boxed up, his perseverance, creativity and voice cannot be destroyed.	
Through the Artist's eyes	Nurul Nayli Iman, Seat Jie En, Kieran Wong, V. Jaivarthini, Shawn Liang Shaw, Derrick Wong De Li, V. Nidharshana	Seeing the world through an artist's eyes, means that there are endless possibilities of how things can appear. As artists, we can create beautiful spaces, just through our imagination. Our art piece shows how our imagination has changed the way the outer space can look.	
The Big Picture	Dibble Cherie Min, Mohamed Harjuna Haidylfitri Shah Bin Mohamed Hussain Shah, Quek Luck Syang, Cheong Yi Xuan Alysa, Wan Xuan Lin Clarice	Greatness is made up of many meaningful deeds, big and small. Our collage pays tribute to our PM for his support in growing the local art scene. In Singapore, artistic expressions are not limited by our small land space but is everywhere - in our architecture, landscaping, and at every corner.	

9. Our heartiest congratulations to all our budding artists! We also want to acknowledge the heart and hard work of our teachers, Ms Pavithera Renuka Michele and Ms Ong Jia Hui. Good job, teachers and students!

#### International Chinese Language Competition (ICLC) 2017

10. On 30 March 2017, Wang Siyuan (of P5A) and Reuben Du (of P4D) represented our school in the International Chinese Language Competition (ICLC) 2017. The ICLC promotes creative writing and expression in the Chinese Language in real time using the internet. This competition attracted over 7000 participants from all over the world last year. This year, the competition is open to local and international participants from primary schools and readers can vote for the most popular essay once the essays have been shortlisted. We are pleased to inform you that Siyuan and Reuben have won the Gold Award and Silver Award respectively for the Singapore category. Well done, Siyuan and Reuben!

#### National On-the-Spot Chinese Story Writing Competition 2017

11. On 3 March 2017, Jiang Enni and Derrick Lim Guan Xiang (of P6A) represented our school in the 2017 National On-the-Spot Chinese Story Writing Competition which was held at Anglican High School. This on-the-spot writing competition provided a platform for primary and secondary school students to showcase their creative writing skill in the Chinese Language. We are pleased to inform you that Enni has won the First Prize in the primary school category which comprises a cash voucher of S\$ 200 and a trophy. Well done, Enni! Keep up the good effort, Derrick!

### 3<sup>rd</sup> National Coding Competition 2017

12. On 29 June, 2 teams of our students took part in the 3<sup>rd</sup> National Coding Competition organised by Regent Secondary and Springfield Secondary Schools. After 5 months of intensive training and preparation by our own in-house trainer cum teacher, Mr Andi Fatahillah, we are pleased to announce that both our teams emerged 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> runner-up. The Silver medalists are Babu Ronald Rohan (P5A), Klos Tan Hao Xiang (P5C) and Sanvith Sunil Mani (P3A). The Bronze medalists are Tan Kai Kiat (P5A), Seo Meng Kai (P5A) and Kandasami Rohith (P3A). Congratulations, children! Keep up the good effort!

### Rugby U11

13. Our Under 11 (U11) Rugby boys took part in the National Schools Rugby Tournament recently after clinching the 3<sup>rd</sup> position in the North Zone Rugby Tournament. We are happy to announce that our team has emerged 5<sup>th</sup> position in the tournament. Our heartiest congratulations to Erman Rifqi Bin Norman and Gomes Leon (of P4B), Carter Igal Xavier (of P4C), Lim Kuan Yu (Captain) and Mohammad Asif Jainullah Anwar Sadath (of P5B), Mohammad Nabigh Bin Norman and Izz Riyan Bin Roslan (of P5C), Han Yi and Muhammad Aminiddin Bin Yusli (of P5D), Muhammad Shah Rizah Bin Mohamed Suzahar (Vice Chaptain), Xiang Kehan, Wu Yuhan (of P5E), Mohammad Arfa Hazimi Bin Hohamad Hasri and Muhammad Aqil Norisham Bin Nezam (of P5F). We are proud of the boys for living up to the school motto – The Best from Me!

### 16<sup>th</sup> National Games Tenpin Bowling Championships 2017

14. A group of students from the Bowling CCA took part in the 16<sup>th</sup> National Games Tenpin Bowling Championships held from 28 June to 10 July. Although our students did not win any title, we want to commend them for giving their best. The competition required them to play for an average of 3 hours per session and our students persevered throughout the games. They also demonstrated great team spirit, cheering for themselves, their peers and other competitors. Our bowlers are Charlotte (of P6A), Elisha, Ritzren, Ilham, Farah, Thomas and Kirsthen (of P6B), Rifqii (of P6C), Izzrul (of P6D), Firdaus (of P6F), Sivan and Eagean (of P5A), Azfar (of P5B), Leshel Chong and Febian Cruz Tan (of P5E), Jenson Tay, Elena Woo and Ice Wu (of P4A), Charles, Ritzrey and Lie Kun (of P4C), Kevann Chan and Xin Yin (of P4D) and Saanvi (of P3A). Keep up the good effort and let's try again next year!

### ***Up-coming school events ...***

#### National Day Celebration

15. On Tuesday, 8 August, we will be celebrating Singapore's 52<sup>nd</sup> birthday. On that day, all students will report to school as usual at 7.30 am and **school will be dismissed at 10 am**. Both side gates will be open from 10 to 10.30 am during dismissal time on that day. Students are strongly encouraged to come dressed in red and white attire or red T-shirts with school shorts/PE shorts/pinafore. For their safety, they are expected to wear white socks and school shoes. There is no after-school activities such as supplementary/remedial classes and CCAs on that afternoon. The canteen will be close on that day, so please ensure that your child has his/her breakfast before coming to school.

16. On that morning, our school will also be hosting 20 senior citizens from the Lions Befrienders Home. They will join us in the celebration and be part of the school community to affirm our loyalty and commitment to Singapore. This is one of the platforms that the school uses to teach our students to show appreciation for our pioneer generation.

#### Lions Home Donation Drive

17. During this National Day period, the school would like our students to be thankful for what they have and to show care for the less fortunate members of our society. We encourage students who have the means, to contribute to the Lions Home Donation Drive, an annual fundraising project of the Lions Home for the Elderly.

18. The envelopes will be given out to the students on Monday, 7 August. Students should place their contributions in the envelopes and return the sealed envelopes to their class Form Teachers

by **Monday 14 August 2017**. Students may approach their family members for help but are strictly prohibited from sourcing for funds from the public.

#### National Day Celebration Dinner Performances

19. We are pleased to announce that our Aesthetic CCA groups and students from TDP have been invited to perform at the community National Day Celebration Dinners.

- On 6 August (Sunday) evening, our TDP students from Chinese Dance, Indian Dance and Malay Dance will be putting up exciting performances at the open space beside Sun Plaza for Gambas National Day Celebration Dinner.
- On 8 August (Tuesday) evening, our choir and TDP for Chinese orchestra and Dance team will be performing at the open space beside Blk 320 Sembawang Close for Canberra National Day Celebration Dinner.

20. Do drop by to support our students if you are at the neighbourhood.

#### 7<sup>th</sup> International Dance Festival 2017

21. Our dance team took part in the 7<sup>th</sup> International Dance Festival, hosted by the Performing Arts Association of Singapore. We are pleased to announce they have made it to the Finals. From now till the Finals (on 25 August), 20% of the final grading for each team will come from the number of likes on the Facebook post on <http://goo.gl/jcM6JZ>. Parents, please lend your support by voting for our dance team (#B32). The deadline for voting will be 24 Aug 2017.

#### **Concluding remarks...**

*“Do more than belong: participate.*

*Do more than care: help.*

*Do more than believe: practice.*

*Do more than be fair: be kind.*

*Do more than forgive: forget.*

*Do more than dream: work.”*

William Arthur Ward (1821 – 1994)

22. William Arthur Ward is an author. He has written many inspiring and motivational quotes. Through the quotes above, Ward is urging us to be **responsible**. Parents, let's hum the same message in school and at home.

23. Thank you.

Warmest regards,

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